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Letter dated 21 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey to you information on the efforts made by the Government of Qatar in relation to the follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, and to inform you of the salient activities of the Doha International Institute for Family Studies and Development, which, while operative since 2005, has made concerted efforts to implement the mandated objectives of the International Year of the Family and to promote and initiate action-oriented research that addresses public policies with a family perspective, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/133 of 16 December 2005 (see annex).

The Doha Institute for Family Studies and Development operates under the vision and patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Mozah bint Nasser al-Missned, Consort of His Highness the Emir of the State of Qatar.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62 (b).

(*Signed*) Nassir Abdulaziz **Al-Nasser**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 21 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Doha International Institute for Family Studies and Development

Under the patronage of and pursuant to the vision of Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser al-Missned, Consort of His Highness the Emir of Qatar, the Doha International Conference for the Family was convened in Qatar in November 2004 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family. A major outcome of the Conference was the establishment, by Her Highness Sheikha Mozah, of the Doha International Institute for Family Studies and Development.

The Institute reflects the commitment of Her Highness to establishing a global study centre that will provide academic research, interdisciplinary studies and policy initiatives to support the efforts of international organizations and civil society to develop and implement family-friendly development plans, policies and programmes.

In cooperation with United Nations agencies, national governmental bodies, relevant international actors, universities, academic institutions, research organizations and non-governmental organizations, the Doha International Institute for Family Studies and Development will be guided by the objectives of the International Year of the Family to:

- Develop a regional and international network of experts and sponsor-selected research projects.
- Support effective programmes that assist the family in fulfilling successfully its many important roles.
- Promote family policy initiatives at all levels.
- Encourage intercultural dialogue and build bridges of understanding between peoples, nations and cultures.
- Organize and convene the biennial Conference of the Doha International Institute for Family Studies and Development.
- Coordinate a series of regional colloquiums on the family.
- Participate in global family policy events.
- Attend selected international conferences and academic meetings.
- Sponsor family-friendly media initiatives.
- Support selected research projects.
- Publish an annual volume of scholarly works entitled *The Family in the New Millennium*.